

Appl. No. 10/614,349  
Amdt. dated May 5, 2005  
Reply to Office Action February 8, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions,  
and listings of the claims of this application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

- 5 1. (Original) A gas turbine engine comprising:
  - a compressor section;
  - a turbine section;
  - a combustor, in flow communication with the compressor and turbine sections;
- 10 at least one combustor mounting assembly adapted to support the combustor within the engine, the combustor mounting assembly having: a longitudinal axis; and an articulating joint having a first and second portion, the first and second portions having mating concave and convex
- 15 curved surfaces, said curved surfaces each having a curvature in two mutually orthogonal planes, and wherein said first and second portion have a plurality of rotational degrees of freedom relative to each other about axes transverse said longitudinal axis.
- 20 2. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim 1 wherein the articulating joint has a translational degree of freedom parallel to said longitudinal axis.
3. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim 25 2 wherein the articulating joint comprises at least one longitudinal slide surface.

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4. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim  
1 wherein the combustor mounting assembly includes an  
outwardly projecting boss.

5. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim  
5 4 wherein the articulating joint is housed within an  
internal surface of the boss.

6. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim  
5 wherein an external slide surface of the articulating  
joint is slidably housed within said internal surface of  
10 the boss, and wherein the joint is free to slide parallel  
said longitudinal axis relative to the boss while  
constrained transverse said longitudinal axis.

7. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim  
3 wherein the combustor mounting assembly includes a pin  
15 engaging at least one of the first and second portions of  
the articulating joint.

8. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim  
7 wherein the articulating joint includes an internal slide  
surface, and the pin has an external slide surface.

20 9. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim  
1 wherein the first and second portions of the articulating  
joint have opposing spherical joint surfaces.

10. (Original) A gas turbine engine according to claim  
9 wherein the first and second portions are mutually nested  
25 sleeves.

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11. (Original) A combustor for a gas turbine engine, the combustor comprising:

at least one combustor mounting assembly having: a longitudinal axis; and an articulating joint having a first 5 and second portion, the first and second portions having mating concave and convex curved surfaces, said curved surfaces each having a curvature in two mutually orthogonal planes, and wherein said first and second portion have a plurality of rotational degrees of freedom relative to each 10 other about axes transverse said longitudinal axis.

12. (Original) A combustor according to claim 11 wherein the articulating joint has a translational degree of freedom parallel to said longitudinal axis.

15 13. (Original) A combustor according to claim 12 wherein the articulating joint comprises at least one longitudinal slide surface.

14. (Original) A combustor according to claim 11 wherein the combustor mounting assembly includes an 20 outwardly projecting boss.

15. (Original) A combustor according to claim 14 wherein the articulating joint is housed within an internal surface of the boss.

25 16. (Original) A combustor according to claim 15 wherein an external slide surface of the articulating joint is slidably housed within said internal surface of the

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boss, and wherein the joint is free to slide parallel said longitudinal axis relative to the boss while constrained transverse said longitudinal axis.

17. (Original) A combustor according to claim 13  
5 wherein the combustor mounting assembly includes a pin engaging at least one of the first and second portions of the articulating joint.

18. (Original) A combustor according to claim 17  
wherein the articulating joint includes an internal slide  
10 surface and the pin has an external slide surface.

19. (Original) A combustor according to claim 11  
wherein the first and second portions of the articulating joint have opposing spherical joint surfaces.

20. (Original) A combustor according to claim 19  
15 wherein the first and second portions are mutually nested sleeves.

21. (Currently Amended) A combustor for a gas turbine engine, the combustor comprising:

a pin having a longitudinal axis and a first spherical  
20 surface slidingly engaging a second mating spherical surface of a combustor boss, wherein at least one of the pin and boss includes one of: an internal longitudinally sliding surface; and an external longitudinally sliding surface.

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22. (Cancelled) A combustor according to claim 21 wherein at least one of the pin and boss includes one of: an internal longitudinally sliding surface; and an external longitudinally sliding surface.